



National Park Service
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National Park of
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Back to School—in America's National Parks

National Park Service Helps Teachers Make Learning Fun and Relevant

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—Teachers throughout American Samoa have a new tool to help them engage their students in classroom and place-based learning.

Today the National Park Service (NPS) launched a new online service for teachers that brings America's national parks, including the National Park of American Samoa, into village classrooms. The new "[Teachers](#)" section of the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/teachers provides a one-stop shop for curriculum-based lesson plans, traveling trunks, maps, activities, distance learning, and other resources. All of the materials draw from the spectacular natural landscapes and authentic places preserved in America's national parks.

"This new website offers teachers from around the world with resources to learn about and teach their students about the National Park of American Samoa," said Superintendent Jim Bacon. "It also offers opportunities for students to enjoy ranger-led field trips to the national park."

Teachers are able to access over 20 curriculum-based classroom programs about the National Park of American Samoa. These programs can be presented by a ranger or by the teacher. Two ranger-led field trips are also available that take students to the Lower Sauma Ridge and Pola Island areas and to Blunts Point. All programs are designed to meet American Samoa's Department of Education standards.

The site is searchable by location, keyword, and more than 125 subjects, from archeology, to biology, to Constitutional law. Teachers will, for the first time, be able to rate NPS-provided content. In addition to park-created content, the site also features educational materials created by NPS national programs like the National Register of Historic Places and its award-winning [Teaching with Historic Places](#) series of 147 lesson plans.

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The website is just one part of the National Park Service's ongoing commitment to education. Every year, national parks offer more than 57,000 educational programs that serve nearly 3 million students in addition to 563,000 interpretive programs attended by 12.6 million visitors. The NPS is working with partners and educational institutions to expand programs and encourage the use of parks as places of learning. The NPS has partnered with the Department of Education to integrate national park resources into core curriculums. Each summer, teachers across the country are hired to work in parks to develop curriculum-based programs based on park resources through the Teacher-Ranger-Teacher program.

To learn more about the National Park Service's education programs, visit www.nps.gov/teachers.

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About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 401 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov Visit us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice.